THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Various suggestions regarding fiscal matters and procedures connected with NRI investment are considered by a Consultative Committee on NRI matters, constituted by the Ministry of Finance. Suitable changes in the Policy/procedures for NRI investment are incorporated wherever necessary.

For import of technology, Government have delegated more powers to the Adiminstrative Ministries to consider and accord approvals in respect of foreign collaboration proposals submitted by the entrepreneurs. Government have also decided to allow higher rate of royalty and foreign equity in Indian companies where the technology is sophisticated and closely guarded. These measures also apply to the NRI cases.

The initiative for selection of technology and tie-up with a foreign collaborator is left to the entrepreneurs. It is, therefore, not possible to assess the direct response fo the foreign companies in these cases.

Privatisation of public enterprises

94. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the International Chamber of Commerce Congress held in New Delhi recently have favoured privatisation of public enterprises as a means of economic expansion in our country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such a move will generate more employment potential; and

(c) if so, what are the broad deliberations of the ICCC and the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) One of the conclusions made at the 29th Congress of International Chamber of Commerce held at New Delhi, in February, 1987 was that "the world-wide trend of privatising State owned companies and contracting out State or Municipal services should be encouraged since it can add to the competitive efficiency of national economies, improve the long term finances of Government and provide new business opportunities for the private sector".

The roles assigned to private and public sectors in the industrial development of the country are laid down in the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956 which continues to provide the basic frame-work of the Government's industrial policy.

Shortage of LPG Cylinders

95. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of filled LPG cylinders is delayed by dealers by 2-3 days;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any shortage of these cylniders and in case there is no shortage of LPG cylinders, what are the reasons for which M/s. Prem Nath Motors, an Indian Oil Corporation LPG dealer is not able to supply LPG cylinders, the same day to the consumers; and

(d) by when the situation is likely to be improved?